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ABSTRACT

Exclusive reliance on objective testing focuses students, attention too narrowly on memorization and rote answers to complex problems, Grades become supreme ends; learning, merely a by-product. Since students learn best when asked to verbalize, analyze, and synthesize their ideas, a grading system was implemented in a social science course at Miami-Dade Community College (Florida) which would encourage analysis and learning from different sources. Students could earn up to five points a week on objective tests, and up to four points a week on written reports. In addition to textbook. assignments, students received lists of audio tapes, movies, television documentaries, and articles which could be reviewed. . Grading of review was based on the extent the student wrote in his own words, the care he took in writing, and the way he related material to academic ideas and personal experience. Results of a questionnaire found student attitudes positive toward the course, the grading system, and especially toward the variety of ways points could be earned. Although care must be taken to insure the quality of the outside sources and the reports themselves, the new system adds flexibility to course curriculum, encourages optimism toward success in the course, and focuses attention on understanding rather than memorization of ideas. Extensive tables of data are appended. (Author/NHM)

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REVISED SYSTEM OF EVALUATION

George H. Emerson, M.A.

Miami-Dade Community College

A PRACTICUM PRESENTED TO NOVA UNIVERSITY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

NOVA UNIVERSITY

December 20, 1974

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INTRODUCTION

This practicum is an attempt to over-ride limitations on learning and student motivation resulting from grading strictly on objective tests. An alternative way of grading is sought that permits learning from many sources, encourages use of analytical skills and application of course content.

BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE

What is sought is a means of evaluation that stimulates the process of learning. It is believed students learn best when asked to verbalize their feelings and analyze and synthesize their ideas. Learning is highly individual. Information offered in class will have effect on an individual only to the extent that he discovers the personal meaning of that information.

It is believed exclusive reliance on objective tests focuses students' attention too narrowly on the tasks of memorizing, seeking pre-existing answers to open questions, and avoiding involvement in the areas of interest to him.

Research indicates that while the effects of grades on educational processes are not clear, very often grades favor students for such qualities as sensitivity, compliance, and agreeableness more than for activities and attitudes that enhance learning. (Becker, et al., 1968, Warren, p. 71)

Grades often are used by students for social status and encourage a competitive spirit which raises anxiety levels for students. Grades become supreme ends; learning becomes a hoped-for-by-product. (Becker, et al., 1968) The important thing is to understand the grading game and play it for survival. (Birenbaum, 1969)

Students who are able to direct their own learning have a good chance to succeed, to play the game well. The community college serves a number of students who have failed at this game throughout their pre-college experience. (Cross, 1968)

A further objection to an extensive dependence on objective-type examination is that the freshman student in the first year of college is generally experimenting. He is expected to learn to adjust, think, try different courses and consider several careers. Instead of encouraging a search for autonomy, the student is faced with traditional grading, and often teaching, practices, that force him to perform in a certain manner, if only temporarily, to earn a grade.

For teachers who wish to encourage application and comprehension skills, watching the student seek out "canned" answers is a discouraging experience. Admittedly the student often enters the class with much training in seeking the correct "canned" answer. However, Combs says "... whatever we do in the way of assessment of human beings necessarily.

controls attention, focuses behavior, and determines the goals that teachers (and students) seek." (Combs, 1968, p. 33)

PROCEDURE

A grading system that would encourage analysis and learning from different sources was implemented.

Points were given for abstracts and for performance on achievement tests. (See Handout in Appendix)

The course was reorganized into six units. The student could earn up to five points a week on a test and up to four points a week on written reports. The student received a list of audio tapes, movies, television documentaries, articles, he might review for each unit, as well as assignments in the reader-textbook. Grading was based on extent the student wrote in his own words, the care he took in writing, and the way he related material to academic ideas and personal experience.

To handle the large class size, 79 students, in a relatively short six week term, a student assistant was hired by the department. She was an outstanding student who had taken the course previously. Both instructor and student assistant graded written work. Students were graded one point for average written work, two or even three points for above average thoughtful work. Below standard work was returned along with suggestions for revision. Assignment deadlines were strictly enforced. The revised course was

taught according to schedule.

Toward the end of the course the instructor prepared a questionnaire using a five point Likert scale.

(See Questionnaire in Appendix.) It was intended to
measure students attitudes toward the course and new
grading system. Feelings about the grading system,
material available for review, feelings about whether the
course allowed enough freedom to learn and encouraged the
student to think, were studied. Also studied were feelings about teacher and student assistant and about the
overall course.

Questionnaire items were revised for clarity.

They were shown to a panel of experts consisting of

Social Science Department members and assistant department
chairman. The questionnaire was not pilot tested nor was
cross tabulation with student population or was comparison
with classes using more traditional grading systems carried
out.

A PL/1 program designed by Dr. Lien-teh Lin was used for item analysis and data processing by the Testing Department of Miami-Dade Community Collège, North Campus. The program uses a card punch option, enabling the researcher to avoid scoring, coding, and punching hazards. It also makes available a variety of fundam ental information about the questionnaire used. The following output was obtained:

1. Frequency distributions of the number of

alternatives for each item.

- 2. An X² statistic to be used in comparing experimentally obtained sample distributions against the hypothesis of equal probability distribution;
- 3. Means, standard deviations, and bi-serial correlation coefficients;
- 4. An inter-scale correlation matrix, to be used to determine whether and to what extent relationships between items might exist;
- 5. Coefficient Alfa as computed from covariance matrix, a reliability estimate based on internal consistency.

RESULTS.

Reliability using consistency of the revised evaluative questionnaire was measured by Coefficient Alfa. Coefficient Alfa as computed from covariance matrix was 0.604; this would seem to be high for an attitude instrument. The instrument as a whole is evidently fairly reliable.

Item analysis indicates a number of propositions' subject to error of ambiguity. As seen in Table 1 (See Appendix) items numbers 3, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20, and 24 have a point biserial correlation coefficient (Pearson R) of 0.19 or less. Scores for these items fail to correlate highly with scores for those students who received high scale scores. Items with coefficients of 0.20 or better seem to be adequate for attitude surveys. (See Table 2, Appendix.)

It might be pointed out that item analysts does not seem to be as critical for the refinement of questionnaires as for refinement of cognitive tests.

Only two of the twenty-six items failed the null hypothesis test. At the .01 level of significance for four degrees of freedom (p = 13.3), itsem 7 and 12 do not diverge significantly from chance expectations. (Table 1)

The mean of the 48 scores was 88.25, standard deviation 9.80. The mode score was 92 and median score 90.

(See Table 3, Appendix.) Wording of Likert scales was different for a few of the items. Most scales were worded 1, "not at all," 3, "somewhat," and 5, "very much." It is not believed the different wording of a few of the scales invalidates the instrument or overall student mean scores. A score of 104 would equal 4, between 3, "somewhat," and 5, "very much." A score of 75 would equal 3 on the Likert. scale. According to Table 4 (Appendix) only five scores are below 75 and 21 fall between scores of 90-99.

The mean score of 88.25 and the large number of scores falling between the 89.5-99.5 area (See Table 4, Figure 1, Appendix) seem to indicate a favorable attitude toward the course. Items 2, 4, and 8 which call for students to state what they think about the course rated above "reasonably good" as shown below.

For these scales 1 was a "very poor course,"

3 was "reasonably good," and 5, an "outstanding course."

		Biserial Correlation	Item Mean	SD().	Chi~sq
4 '.	Compared to other courses that I have this		י אר י	1 *04	
2.	course was Overall rating of the course	0.37 0.23	3.35 3.06		50.56
8.	From what I have heard of other past and	0.23	M	, T.• 04	, ,
•	present social science 101 classes, this class was	0.23	.3.58	1.07	25.37

Which aspects of the course did students react to most favorably? Did planned changes produce desired results? The following analysis is based on items in Table 2 containing the 16 items, that evidently discriminated between high and lower scores as measured by a point biserial correlation coefficient higher than 0.20. (Table 2) All items on the table also meet the Chi-Square test for significance at the 0.01 level.

Responses to items 17, 18, and 19, measuring attitude toward the instructor and student assistant showed positive judgments toward both:

	Biserial Item Correlation - Mean	SD Chi-sq.
17. Having two teachers is better than one	0.31 3\88	1.23 .42.83
18. Donna explained important ideas well	0.45 3.38	1.10 36.81
19. George explained important ideas well	0.32 4.08	0.90 31.79
K,	•	

.Item mean scores are high. Reaction to item 17

indicates student assistant was regarded as an asset to the course. High point biserial correlation coefficients may indicate these items contributed significantly to positive attitudes regarding the course.

Propositions regarding the grading and whether the system provided variety received high item mean scores:

Biserial

	*	Correlation Mea	n SD Chi-so
6.	The course allowed	•	
	enough variety to choose from in earning	•	
	points	0.51 4.4	4 0.85 65.54
23.	I especially liked the grading system	0.51 3.6	7 1.45 17.42

Item 6, variety of ways to earn points, received highest item mean score of any item. It would seem the goal of providing freedom to learn from a variety of resources had been met.

Comments received from students seem to support the idea that freedom from depending on objective examinations for the entire grade contributes to motivation to learn.

Comments received include "I applied myself," "can work at own rate," and "can get grade you want."

It should be noted that the Chi-Square score for item 23, "I especially liked the grading system," though significant at the 0.01 level, was the lowest Chi-Square in Table 2. Discussing this in terms of variance of total score with item variance is beyond the scope of this paper.

Examination of the inter-item correlation matrix (Table 5, see Appendix) shows items pertaining to instructors and variety of ways to earn points were moderately related. The following items, for example, correlate moderately with responses to 23, "I especially like the grading system":

- 5. The outside sources were the best part of the course (r = .48)
- 6. The course allowed enough variety to choose from in earning points (r = .53)
- 7. Abstracts should be graded on a higher scale (r = .42)
- 18. Donna explained important ideas and concepts well (r = .51)
- 19. George explained important ideas and concepts well (r = .44)
- 22. Donna's age affected me positively (r = .43)

$$p < 05 = .38 \quad p < 01 = .49$$

Optional material labeled "outside sources" that the student would review such as audio cassettes, and television documentaries were tried for the first time. Results seem to indicate further investigation of quality of these sources is necessary. Item mean scores are lower than for most other propositions:

	Biserial Correlation	Item Mean	SD	Chi-sq.
5. The outside sources were the best part of	•	*	-	-
the course	0.39 '	2.77	1.21	21.79
25. I learned much more from the "outside option than from assigned	ns"		•	·
readings	0.23	2.52	1.24	18.67

The revised evaluation system was designed to encourage use of analytical and expressive abilities as well as application of concepts by the student. Two items were included to obtain student attitudes regarding these goals:

Biserial 'Item '. Correlation Mean SD Chi-sq.

- 26. Writing abstracts forces me to sit and think about what I have read
- 0.28 4.25 1.28 73.80
- 14. By writing summaries and reactions to the various articles and outside sources, I learned more than I would have by only listening, reading and taking tests
- 0.35 3.88 1.23 42.83

Item mean scores for both of the above items were high. This would seem to confirm the assumption that writing requires students to listen and understand better than if they were reviewing for an objective-type test, for which they tend to memorize. The assumption seems further strengthened by the fact that as the term ended students' written work had improved, Thoughts were expressed more frequently in the students' own words, and more effort seemed to be taken to relate concepts taught to students' own thoughts.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Continued use of the alternate system of evaluation is recommended. As shown by the questionnaire, students report satisfaction with such a system; they agree that enough variety in earning a grade is available and that written reports require greater understanding of material than if they were studying the material for an examination consisting of objective questions.

est mean item score was, "The course allowed enough variety to choose from in earning points." This result is consistent with comments from students as well as observations on their attitudes toward the course that indicate students feel they have a chance in the course.

Optimism is an important goal in any situation where teaching and learning are to take place, especially in courses that tend to be unpopular because they are required. If the point system encourages greater optimism toward the course, this could tend to create a self-ful-filling prophecy in the classroom. Psychologists have demonstrated that the power of expectation alone can influence the behavior of others. (Rosenthal, 1968)

Further investigation is needed to determine whether this self-fulfilling prophecy actually exists.

Results indicate sources such as tape's and television programs must be selected with great care. Not



just any source will do. In practice most sources that seem promising do not meet criteria of ease of understanding or high level of interest.

care must be taken not to let outside source evaluations become the entire means of grading. They serve as an alternate means of evaluation. It is also important to maintain high standards for written work, especially for quality of personal and academic reactions. It is recommended the two reactions be written separately and that the student give examples to back his statements.

The outside source evaluation can be a means whereby the student shows he has studied and comprehends the material. The weight to give to objective tests would depend on what facts, concepts, etc. the teacher felt the student should know and how he felt the student should demonstrate his learning.

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APPENDIX



TABLE 1

FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION OVER THE NUMBER OF ALTERNATIVES, STANDARD DEVIATION, MEAN, CHI-SQUARE AND POINT BISERIAL CORRELATION COEFFICIENT FOR EACH ITEM

	:		*	'ব।	lter	Alternatives	F. S.	\	SD	Mean	Chi-Sq.	Corr W Sca. Minus Item	Scale
	r-i `	• I think abstracts were graded	0		7	24	8	19	1:10	3.75	50.54	0.22	*
	4	. Overall rating of the course	Н	<i>در</i> س	₫ .	29	6	ັນ	1.04	3.06	50.56	0.23	•
	, <u>w</u>	3* Tests were written in a confusing way	0	Ω	؈	21	1 0	11	1.24	2.77	19.50	0.16	
•	4	. Compared to other courses that I have taken, this course was	0	7	ហ	. 24	œ	Ď	1.04	3.35	30.12	.0.37	
	n,	. The "outside sources" were the best part of the course	0	10	· •	22	ហ	ហ	1.21	2.77	21.79	0.39	*
18	' ,16	The course allowed enough variety to choose from in earning points	* ' O	0	ri	, 	` `	Ë	0.85	4.44	65.54		
٠ ور	7.	7. Abstracts should be graded on a higher scale	, ,0	12	m	14	7	12	1.50	3.08	8.46**	-0.31	<i>→</i> }.
_	*•	From what I have heard of other past and present Social Science classes, this class was	8	ω	12	21	4	", H	1.07	3,58	25.37	0.23	-
	<u>ي.</u>	I studied for this course	ო	10	н	, 80 H	o)	7,	1.49	2.85	15.81	0.07	
	HOH	10* Changing assignments and dates bothered me	· ó	27	m ;	12	m	, , ,	1.29	4.00	45.75.	0.20	•
, ,	, , , ,	<pre>11* I had very much trouble with getting tapes copied</pre>	Ν,	28	. 4		" m	φ	1.52	4.02	47.87	-0.01	14
,		:	*** ***		-	1 6	΄.	•	•		•	•	~

•	TABLE 1 - Continued					٠.		•		Corr.	W Scale
ı	•	•	AI	Alternatives	ves		SD	Mean	Chi-Sq.	Minus	ப
12*	I think that	•		•	•	*	,	<i>'</i> .		•	. 1
Y	learned more accurately than the grades I received on abstracts	, r	7.	7 , 13	'n	. ω	1.46	3.46.	12.42**	90.0-	, , , , , ,
13.	The Edwards Personal Preference Test was worth the time to take and write about	0	_ S	7 17	. 7	7	1.37	2.55	16.17	0:03	ღ
14.			•		•	· · ·				•	•
	listening, reading, and taking tests	0	ø	4	7 10	23	1.39	3.88	26.79	0.3	35
15.	Donna's age affected me positively.	. n	32,	ω 	, m	8	H . 15	1.58	70.79	0.09	່ ໂ
, H	16. More learning situations such as games, group activities, should be used	, d	' _. რ	7	m m	ِ م	1.38	2.85	14.52	0.0	4
17.	17. Having two teachers is better than having one.	0	m	, i.g.	1	. 8	1.23	3,88	42.83	0	
18.	18. Donna explained important ideas well	-	,	2 (25	6	٠0,	1.10	3.38	36.81	4.0 45	້າ,
19.	19. George explained important ideas well	0	* 0	¥	, 13	20	0.90	4.08	31.79	0,32	, , ,
20.	20. Did you read the hand-outs?	, oi	Н	1 16	. 4	26	1.08	4.10	50.96	0.05	
21.	This course caused me to think	·. o	H	0 、20	10	17	0.98	3.88	34,29	.0.23	.ქ~1.! ლ
				•		,			, Æ	•	5

TABLE 1 - Continued

¥		•	Alte	Alternatives	. Yes	•	SĎ	Mean	Mean Chi-Sq.	Corr. W Scale Minus Item
. 22.	22. Donna s age affected me negatively	3 16	9	16	្តែ	2	1.56	2.52	19.15	0.35
23.	23. I especially liked the grading system	0	. m 	. o	. 다	. 61	45	3.67	17.42	0.51
24.	24. More points should be given for doing mini-projects	0	. 8	15	. 21	13	1.05	3.67	28.46	7.0.0-
25.	25. I learned much more from the "outside options" than from assigned readings		13	61 6	. 73	٠, ٧	1.24	2.52	18.67	0.23
26.	Writing abstracts forces me to sit, and think about what I have read	ਜ	' r-t		м	33.	1.28	1.28 4.25	73.90	0.28
**						`,	,			•

*Following item number means a reversed item.

**Chi-Square not significant at the .01 level.

16

TABLE 2

ITEMS WITH POINT BISERIAL CORRELATION COEFFICIENTS
BETTER THAN 0.19

	•	•	,		
•		Biserial Correlation	Item Mean	SD	Chi-sq.
1.	I think abstracts were graded fairly	0.22	3,75	1.10	50.54
`2.	Overall rating of the cou	rise 0.23	3,06	1.04	50.56
4.	Compared to other courses that I have taken, this course was	0.37	3.35	1.04	30.12
් 5 : ර	The outside courses were the best part of the course	0.39	2.77	1.21	21.79
	The course allowed enough variety to choose from in earning points	0.51	4.44	0.85	65,54
	From what I have heard of other past and present Social Science 101 classe this class was	·	3.58	1.07	25.37
10*	Changing assignments and dates bothered me /	0.20	4.00	1.29	45.75
	By writing summaries and reactions to the various articles and outside sources, I learned more than I would have by only listening, reading, and taking tests	<i>r</i> 0.35	3.88	1.39	26.79
17.	Having two teachers is better than having one	031	3.88	1.23	42.83
18.	Donna explained importantideas well	0,45	3.38	1.10	36.81
19.	George explained important ideas well	nt 0.32	4.08	0.90	31.79

TABLE 2 - Continued

<i>?</i> •>		,	Biserial Correlation	Item Mean	SD	Chi-sq.
_	This course caused muthink	ne to	0.23	3.88	0.98	34.29
22.	Donna's age affected negatively	l me	0.35	2.52	1.56	19.18
23.	I especially liked to grading system	he	0.51	3.67	1.45	17.42
	I learned much more the 'butside options' from assigned reading	' than	0.23	2.52	1.24	18.16
26.	Writing abstracts for me to sit and think what I have read		.0.28	4.25	1.28	73.90

^{*}Following item number means a reversed item.

TABLE 3

•			•		•		
Scale	Scores	for Each	Subject	Rank	Order of	Scale	Scores
•	. 76			•	106		
	94			•	104		
	· 96	•			102	• ,	
•	77 83		Υ.	,	102	•	
	90	*		• •	100; 100		
	. 92	-	* *		~ ¹⁰⁰	• 5	
	84	· ·			95	•	
	92	' -ई.		•	97		
	. 94	` 1	•	•	97		
•	77	· ·	•		96	1	
	. 93	,	•	×	96		
•	98		•	•	96		
	70		•	•	93		1
	90	ns.			94		
	106			•	94	~ •	
	', 73	•	•		92	•	
	91			1	92		
,-	66	•			92	•	
	7,8				92	Ţ.	
•	97	•			92	•	,
	74 96				91 91	•	•
	.92				90		
*	98			* 4	90		•
	96			•	90	*	
	100	-			. 90	•	
, , , ,	* 80		•	•	87		
	85	•	• • •	,	87	•	
	81		•		86	; ·	
	87	•			85.	• •	, «
	9.2	•			. 85		,
ř.	84		*		84	-	
*.	90	٧	•		84		· •
	.80	-	•	/	83 82 85	,	٠.
سيمر	85.	- :		·	, 82 , 6E		
	82	•	• •	•	85	•	
	90 80 85 82 102 91	ł	`		80 78 77		
	0.2 AT		•		/ 8 77	٠	
	7 O				. //	•	
	87 104 86 100 66 97		•		77 76 74 73 70		
`	100				74		•
	44 700	F		,	73		
,	97	•	* ·		70		
			,			*	

TABLE 3 - Continued

Scale	Scores	for Each	Subject	Rank Or	der of	Scale	Scores
•	•	,	•			- •	1
	92	•	• ,*		• 66		· ·

TABLE 4

FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS' TOTAL SCORES ON QUESTIONNAIRE

Interval				•		reque	ncy
•	100 - 109		1	1	•	6	
	90 - 99	•	79	•	•	21	
	80 - 89	61				' 11	
	70 - 79			•		7	
	60 - 69			•	•	3	

I think abstracts were graded fairly the course Overall rating of

Tests were written in a confusing way

Compared to other courses/I have taken

"Outside sources" were best part ...

Course allowed variety in earning points

Abstracts should be graded on higher scale

*Compared to other courses this course was

I studied for this course

Changing assignments and dates bothered me had trouble getting tapes

Test results reflect more accurately what I learned than grades on abstracts

The Edwards Personal Preference Test was Learned more by writing summaries & reworth the time to take and write about

actions than by listening, reading, taking tests

group activities, should be Donna's age affected me negatively More games,

17 Maving two teachers is better than one 18. Donna explained important ideas and

George explained important ideas and concepts well concepts well

This course caused me to think Did you read the handouts?

Donna's age affected me negatively

especially liked the grading system More points should be given for doing

mini-projects

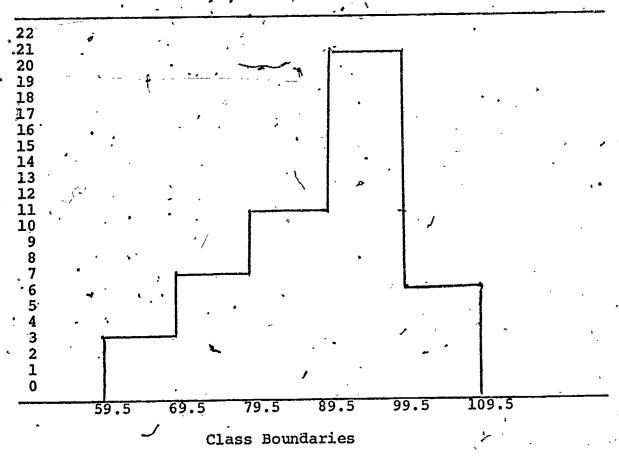
I learned more from the "outside options" than from assigned readings.

Writing abstracts forces me to sit and think about what I am doing

140 -33

freedom = 44 with 25 degrees of item number means reversed 10. > q *Following p < .05 = 38;

FIGURE 1
HISTOGRAM OF STUDENTS' TOTAL SCORES
ON QUESTIONNAIRE



·HANDOUT

SOCIAL SCIENCE 101 SEQUENCE 3031 ROOM 2151

Rational

We will explore the complex variables that underlie individual and social life, gathering and exploring our data through various methods. Our goal is to gain a wider perspective on society, to sharpen our ability to observe, interpret, adjust to and/or change group and individual facts of life. Our ideas come mainly from sociology, psychology, and anthropology—areas of special interest within the social sciences.

Course Outline

Week 1 May 6-9 Scientific Method, Creative Problem Solving and Social Stratification

Week 2 May 13 - 16 Socialization, Values, Roles

Week 3 May 20-23 Psychological Schools of Thought

Week 4 May 28-30 Groups, Deviance and Anomie

Week 5 June 3-6 Culture

Week 6 June 8-13 / Institutions

Grades due: Friday, June 14

Textbooks

Mirror of Man by Jane Dabagian

Recommended: Basic Principles of the Social Sciences, Horton and Horton, et al.

Evaluation

A point system is used. 60 points A, 50-59 B, 40-49 C, 30-39 D, less than 30 F. All work except book reports due at the end of the week for which credit is desired. Your work will be returned promptly the next week. Keep track of the number of points you are earning—save your work and add up your points. Last day for withdrawal is Friday, May 31. W cannot be given at the end of the semester.



HANDOUT - Continued

Basis for Awarding Points

Six tests: one at the end of every week. These are objective multiple-choice, true-false, matching. You will need a testing pencil; the tests are machine scored and marks made with other objects will not appear. No make up. A-5, B-4, B-3, C-2, D-1. Possible 30 points.

.12 Abstracts. One point each. Two points for a superior job.

Possible 12 points.

An abstract is a summary, in your own words, of the contents of an article you have read. An abstract allows the reader to judge and react to ideas as they are expressed by writers.

Format:

- 1. Headings-identify the articles by writing the author's name, the title of the article, the name of the periodical or book, its date, volume and number, and pages. Example William Vesta, "A Study of the Political Systems in Africa," International Politics, June 1964, Vol. 38, No. 5, pp. 523-538.
- 2. Use both sides of one 5 x 8 card.
- 3. Start of Abstract-begin your abstract by summarizing the main ideas of the author.
- 4. Reaction to Article—In your own words, write your thoughts about the article you have read. We would like the learning process to be more than just knowing information, remembering what someone said or wrote. Therefore it is important for students to respond to all teaching resources. The simplest form of response is to interact with someone else about how you see, hear, and feel about the resource.
- 5. Evaluation-familiarity with subject, conciseness, originality of thought, legibility.
- Attendance. 10 points--given for attending all but two classes. a point off for every class missed in excess of two.
- 12 Outside Source Evaluations. Possible 12 points.

HANDOUT - Continued

Following the format for the abstract you may evaluate and react to two non-text book sources a week. At the end of your evaluation explain how it relates to this course. Outside sources include Life-Lab tapes, movies, T.V. Documentaries, articles from Psychology Today, interviews, etc.

Six Mini-Projects. Due two days after the week for which credit is desired ends. Suggested projects will be given out at the start of every week.

Three points for a good written report, four points for a good oral report.
Possible 18 points.

Two Book Reports. First due May 22, second June 12. None may be handed in after respective deadline. Ask for guidance. Seven points for an exceptional job, five for a good job, and three for an average job.

Possible 14 points.

Choose the way you want to earn your grade. None of the above activities are required. Tailor the means of evaluation to your strengths as a learner. Following the above program, you should have no trouble earning the grade you desire. Make up your mind if you are willing to do the work required of you at the beginning of the term.

Office Hours and Other Information.

Your instructor is George Emerson. Donna Goldstein is my teaching assistant. My office hours are 8:30-9:00, 1:00-1:30 or by appointment. I will be on campus until at least 2:00 on most days. Donna's hours are similar. Our office is in Room 2256. The telephone number is 685-4347. If you come to see me or call always leave a message.

If you are handing in written work, don't plagiarize (copy any part of a work already published). Even if you can't do a perfect job; making a try is appreciated (not to mention how much more benefit YOU will get from the experience.)

QUESTIONNAIRE

The purpose of this Evaluation is to help us improve our teaching performance and capabilities—therefore your cooperation is essential. Please answer the following questions as honestly and fairly as you can.

1. I think abstracts were graded fairly

į	•	· .2		 3	4	. 5	
not	at	all	•	somewhat		yery	much

2. Overall rating of the course

5 4		3 2	1
an outstanding		a reasonably good `	a very poor
course	_	course	course

3. Tests were written in a confusing way

4. Compared to other courses that I have taken this course was

5 `	4	^3	•	2	`1
outstar	nding	rea	sonab.	Ly good	very poor

45. The "outside sources" were the best part of the course

	5		4	,	-	3	2	•	1	-	
•	very	much		_		somewhat			not	at	all

6. The course allowed enough variety to choose from in earning points

```
1 2 3 4 5 not at all somewhat.
```

7. Abstracts should be graded on a higher scale

8. From what I have heard of other past and present Social Science 101 classes this class was

QUESTIONNAIRE (Continued)

9. I studied for this course

5 4 3 2 1
more than for about the same as less than for similar others for similar others similar others

10. Changing assignments and dates for tests, bothered me

5 4 i 3 2 1 very much somewhat not at all

11. I had very much trouble with getting tapes copied up in the Audio-Visual Department

5 4 3 2 1 **
very much somewhat not at all

12. I think that the test results reflect what I actually learned—more accurately than the grades I received on abstracts and mini-projects

5 4 3 2 1 not at all

14. By writing summaries and reactions to the various articles, and outside sources, I learned more than I would have by only listening, reading, and taking tests

5 4 3 2 1 very much somewhat not at all

15. Donna's age affected me negatively

5 4 3 2 1 very much somewhat not at all

16. More learning situations such as games, group activities, and solving case studies should be used.

5 4 3 2 1 very much somewhat not at all

17. Having two teachers is better than having one

5 4 3 2 1 not at all

18. Donna explained important ideas and concepts well

1 2 3 4 5 not at all somewhat very much.

QUESTIONNAIRE (Continued)

19.	George explai	ined impor	tant ideas	and concept	ts well
	l 2 not at all		3 somewhat	4	5 very much
20.	Did you read	the hand	outs?		•
%	l î 2 not at all		3. sometimes	4 -	5 all the time
21.	This course o	caused me	to think		•
	5 4 all the time	•	3 sometimes	2	l not at all
22.	Donna's age	affected m	ne positiveļ	Y. ,	
	l 2 not at all	:	3 somewhat	4	5 very much
23,	I, especially	like the	grading sys	tem .	•
•	l 2 not at all		3 somewhat	4	5 very much
24	More points s	should be	given for d	loing mini-p	projects
£	1 not at all 2		3 somewhat	4	5 very much
25 .	I learned muc as tapes, etc not included)	:.) than f			
	l 2 not at all	٠.	3 somewhat	4	5 very much
26.	Writing abstr I have read	acts forc	ęs me to śi	t and think	about what
	5 4 very much		3 somewhat	2	not at all
	,				

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